



Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

HI-Q

Thunder Bay, Ontario



Volume 78

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Issue 10

Congratulations Manuel!



The date for this years **RAC Winter Contest** is December 29 & 30.
If you are thinking of trying to give Manuel some competition
details are at

<http://tinyurl.com/bfcbb5s>

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske VE3JQ SK
Pat Doherty VE3PD
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President - vacant

Vice President - vacant

**Secretary - Jeff Cederwall
VE3JTD**

Treasurer -Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Directors

Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Lori Bedford VE3VAI
Bill Unger VE3XT

LARC Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

**ARES District Emergency
Coordinator**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631
VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

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ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to ve3snw@shaw.ca

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Sunday AMETHYST ARES VHF NET, on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9031 @ 0045Z (7:45 pm), also Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS 151.4

Monday SATERN NET on VE3TBR 146.820- pl 107.2 IRLP Ref. # 9032

SATERN DIGITAL NETS on **Monday & Wednesday** nights

8 pm- 14.065

9 pm- 7.065

10 pm- 3.5835

Mode :Olivia 8/500 1000Hz waterfall centre

Tuesday 2M/ LARC ARES NET on VE3YQT 147.060- @ 7:00PM ET, and after this net is the new THUNDER BAY ARES DIGITAL NET on PSK31 between 1000 & 2000 WATERFALL 145.050 FM mode @ 7:30PM (usually starts after the 2m/ ares net)

Every Day The NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100
144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)



Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG SK

It is with deep regret that we advise of the passing of Mike Nawrocki VE3ZG. Mike passed away on Wednesday November 28, 2012 at the age of 78.

Mike had a passion for communications. He held many positions in the communications field with one of them being the Dept. Of Communications (Industry Canada) as a radio inspector. Many of the local club members bear witness of this as their amateur radio licenses are signed by Mike. He was active in the club for many years and actively volunteered at many of the local events that the LARC was active in.

Mike's funeral was attended by many of the local hams. I shared a special time with his family when Mike's sons lead us down a path of family memories. Stories of camp and airplanes and gardening showed his passions, obsessions, and his spice for life in general. Marion asked me, "What are we going to do without the big guy?"

Well Marion, we will miss Mike but if everyone can take a piece of the energy that Mike carried, he will have given us a gift that keeps on giving in its own special way for us to remember him.

To the family, please know that we will hold his memory close as we "play" radio and our thoughts go out to you.

Potatoes and Fresh Fruit Forever!

Randy VA3OJ



VE3RRP APRS DIGIPEATER/IGATE, WEATHER STATION NEWS

In late October the laptop that controlled the VE3RRP APRS digipeater/iGate and weather station at Hazelwood Lake suffered a hard drive meltdown.

Another laptop was secured and put into service in late November. Also at that time, VA3ROM and VE3RRP investigated the cause of poor rain gauge performance. The rain gauge was retrieved from the tower and tests revealed that the reed switch in the gauge was compromised. Robert VA3ROM is working on getting a replacement switch.

73,

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP



VE3RRP checking the rain gauge

Christmas Parade



Marion Nawrocki VE3MJN and Patricia Pugh VA3PP



Once again, LARC members provided important organization and communications skills for the Annual Christmas Parade

Photo - Mark Vaillant VA3MVR, Marion and Pat, back row - Mervyn Halvorsen, VA3TSA and Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Mobile Antenna for Swap

Larsen glass-mount 5/8 for 2 meters (needs cable) will swap for reasonable Tim card - cheers es 73 de VE3AVS

North East Ontario Regional Directors Report for December, 2012



I first regretfully wish to inform you that long time Assistant Director and friend of Radio Amateurs of Canada Roy Brockelbank, VE3FOD became a silent key on November 17. I wish to pass on our condolences to his wife Maxine and his three children Dawn, Parker, Chris and his grandchildren.

I also want to extend congratulations to Bob Nash, VE3KZ who was recently appointed to the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. Bob will be presented with this award at a meeting to be arranged in Toronto in early 2013. I take special pleasure in congratulating him as he is a native Port Arthur'er. Also in the mid 70's he taught a freshly minted Department of Communications Radio Inspector on the finer points of cable TV measurements at Humber College. Congratulations on your award Bob and thanks for being a great ambassador for Amateur Radio. It was also good to see you in Thunder Bay recently.

By now I am sure everyone knows of the restructuring of Ontario. There are still a few positions open in the 4 sections, would you consider filling one of them? Email me.

I occasionally get the question "Why should I join RAC and where is RAC going?" Over the next few Directors reports I would like to tell you where I see RAC heading and why I hope you would consider joining.

The Directors believe RAC should be run as a business, and our core business is to support and forward the cause of Amateur Radio in Canada. But to be successful we need to be able to ensure the viability of RAC. That will happen with a solid and sustaining membership.

I was recently talking to an Amateur who was wondering now that TCA is going to a digital edition would we lose members? This also got me to thinking for example, why would a new Amateur who may only be on 2M be interested in joining RAC.

Here are a couple of suggestions.

A fellow Amateur in Thunder Bay (who also has HF privileges) does some travelling and normally gets travel insurance through a bank / travel agency. He investigated the new RAC travel insurance from Johnson and *it was to his advantage* for him to sign his XYL up as a member and use RAC travel insurance. ***RAC insurance was cheaper for him than at the bank / travel agency.*** Check it out at "Johnson.ca/rac" or 1-800-563-0677

That same Amateur can use the callsign@rac.ca alias.

He can access his TCA and RAC Report anywhere he is travelling via the web.

To be continued.

Finally my XYL, Rita and wonder dog Rufus would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a DX'full 2013. We hope you get to spend some time over the holidays with family and friends and on December 29 hope to work you in the RAC Contest.

If you have any questions or concerns please email me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

Bill VE3XT

North East Ontario Regional Director

Radio Amateurs of Canada

Set Fines for Contravening the Radiocommunication Act

In November, the Parliament of Canada passed amendments to the Radio Act the prescribe set fines for violations under the act. You can see the full list at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2012/2012-11-21/html/sor-dors236-eng.html>

Basically it means that you will receive a ticket (similar to a speeding ticket) for contravening the Radio Act with a set fine so you can avoid going to court.

Time to Buy a Lottery Ticket

I hope no one will take umbrage to me suggesting that LARC members should be encouraged to gamble but hopefully after this story you may agree I should purchase just one ticket. And like any good story you need a few twists and turns so I have included a few in this article.

When I was teaching at the college many parts of the courses were very specific and detailed in certain spots. The instructors may not have been fully up to speed so they would bring in an expert from industry that was very knowledgeable in that aspect of the subject. These folks were called sessionals and usually came back every year for that semester. One of these experts was a fellow called Jon Nelson. Since the building I was teaching in was very small you tended to know everyone in it, and got to chat to them at lunch or some other times. Well Jon and I got along famously and became acquaintances. However he eventually retired and we lost track of each other.

Now move forward several years to one afternoon last fall when I was out having lunch with some friends. Rita was planning to go out for lunch later when I got home with some of her friends. And yes we do go out for lunch occasionally together as well. When I was out the vanity in the bathroom fell off the wall. In doing so it took off the door handle of the bathroom door and gouged several deep scratches in it. As well, several bottles of nail polish had broken and spilled all over the floor. By the time I arrived the nail polish had dried and was embedded with millions of shards of glass. It looked like a barrier from no man's land. Since Rita had a commitment I was relegated to cleaning up. After several bottles of nail polish remover and 5 or 6 rolls of paper towels it was clean but I was higher than a kite from the fumes. AARG! We replaced the vanity but never did get around to replacing the door.

In the first week of November I stopped procrastinating and Rita bought a used door from the Restore here in Thunder Bay. The door was in great shape but the hinge mitres were in the wrong spot. Now you may know that I don't do wood and I don't even own a hammer. Since I go to the 55+ Centre on Thursdays I decided to bring along the door and have the wood working club fellows do the task for me. It's another reason why the 55+ is such a great place.

When I went into the wood working room who do I see but my old acquaintance Jon. After we got caught up on the missing years he asked me what I was doing at the 55+. I started telling about Amateur Radio. He asked the usual questions like how far away can you talk, what language do you talk in and do you use Morse code? After answering them he stated his father was from a small village in Norway called Vangness and have I ever talked to anyone there? Well then I started to explain it's not quite like that and I started back peddling. You can't just dial up Vangness on command. You need proper propagation, both stations to be on and no QRM to name a few. He said ok and I invited him to come and see VE3SAO someday and then we parted ways.

When I went into the radio room I turned on the radios and computers. One program we have running is a station spotting program that lists many stations on at the moment. The first one on the list was LA4UOA a Norwegian station on 10 Metres. The operator was Tor from Mandal and his signal was 59+ and holding up really well. After listening to him for a few minutes I went back to the wood shop and asked Jon to come and listen. He did and then we called Tor and he came back to us. After the usual exchanges I told him about Jon and he said he wanted to talk to him. It turns out Tor was very familiar with Vangness and spent the summers there. After he told Jon what it was like and they had a very nice long conversation we signed off. It was a great introduction to Amateur Radio.

The point of all this. Who knew that a vanity falling off the wall would give me a great opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio and have the good fortune to find a Norwegian station when it was needed. Talk about lucky. I did go out and buy a lottery ticket. If I am sporting a new KX3 in the upcoming months you will know how I did.

Bill XT

Hall of Fame Inductee visits VE3SAO

Recently Bob Nash, VE3KZ was appointed to the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame for his long time support of Amateur Radio and Contesting in particular. What Thunder Bay Amateurs may not know was Port Arthur was his home town.

In the mid to late 1950's Bob was a member of the LARC and was an active member of that group. His call at the time was VE3BHS. He has also been writing The Sports Page in TCA which focuses on the Canadian Contest Scene for many years. Also any perusal of contest results will probably show VE3KZ in the top percentile.

He was recently in town for family matters and took time out to visit VE3SAO and met with VE3EFC, VE3EDX and VE3XT. During his visit to Thunder Bay he also spent some time with VE3CX and VE3TU talking about contesting techniques.

During his visit he was also presented with a LARC 75th Anniversary patch.



George Dow, VE3DOW, Bill Unger, VE3XT, Doug, McCormack, VE3EFC Bob Nash, VE3KZ

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

November 2012 Treasurers Report

Balance November 01 2012 **\$2,303.80**

Income

Nov 12	Dues	\$95.00
Nov 12	Return of chq #118	\$28.25
Nov 23	50/50 Draw	\$5.00

Total Income **\$128.25**

Expenses

Nov 06	RAC affiliation fee	\$28.25
Nov 08	Insurance	\$469.80
Nov 08	Con College Room rental	\$84.75
Nov 12	CNIB Donation	\$100.00
Nov 13	Tbaytel , trailer cell	\$0.57
Nov 30	Service charge	\$1.00

Total Expenses **\$684.37**

Balance Nov 30 2012 **\$1,747.68**

Trailer Account

Previous Balance **\$653.08**

Income

Nov 30 2012	Interest	\$0.05
Total		\$653.13

Expenses

\$0.00

Total Expenses: **\$0.00**

Balance in Trailer Account **\$653.13**

Term Account

Balance Nov 01 2012 **\$2,022.41**

Interest Nov 10 2012 **\$0.67**

Balance Nov 30 2012 **\$2,023.08**

Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Treasurer

A Note from Randy

Good Day all. Since stepping down as President, I have been heading in the new direction of public relations with the LARC. I would like to ask anyone that has any information on club members that are in the hospital or convalescing at home, to contact me. I would like to contact these members or fellow amateurs and pass on a friendly hello or drop off a card to let them know that we are aware of the circumstances and can in turn, inform others if you would like to have some friendly faces drop by to say hi. On the other hand, it could direct others as to the wishes of the person and allow them the time they need to get themselves back on their feet. Please contact me by phone or email va3oj@rac.ca to ensure that the privacy of the person is kept according to their wishes.

Thanks Randy VA3OJ



*Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays
and have a great and safe New Year*

December 2012

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 NAQCC Monthly Sprint	13	14	15 Croatian CW Contest QRP ARCI Holiday Sprint	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Merry Christ- mas from LARC 	26 <small>Boxing Day</small>	27	28	29 RAC Winter Contest	30
31	Happy New Year!					